

bound and not far to the southward of Sable Island, Nova Scotia or, to quote the manuscript record literally, in "Lat. about 43° N., and Long. 60° W." "There had been a northeast gale for five days," which perhaps accounts for the occurrence of the bird so far to the westward. For two days previous to its capture it had been seen following the steamer. When it sought refuge on her decks it was utterly exhausted and very much emaciated, being, indeed, "nothing but skin and bones." "The men on board tried" to revive it "with food (probably corn beef and hard tack) . . . but it died a short time before the steamer reached port." Her Second Officer, S. A. Cornwell by name, took it in the flesh to D. B. Mackie of Malden, Massachusetts, by whom it was skinned, sexed and mounted and from whom I afterwards purchased it, through the kind offices of Dr. Lombard C. Jones, also of Malden. I am further indebted to the latter gentleman for the above data, all of which I have compiled from letters written by him to Mr. Walter Deane in 1907, and from one addressed to me personally, that has come within the past week.

It would perhaps be not wholly unreasonable to maintain that the record just given entitles the Whimbrel to a place in New England lists; for the bird to which it relates had apparently flown unaided to within six hundred miles of the sea coast of New Hampshire, in about the latitude of Portsmouth, and similar instances of "casual occurrences" have been accepted on no better evidence than this. In any case the specimen furnishes a definite and perfectly satisfactory North American record of a European species which, if I am not mistaken in my recollection, has been found previously on this side of the Atlantic only in Greenland, where it is said to have been taken a dozen times or more.—WILLIAM BREWSTER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*).—Mr. Rudolph Borchardt, the pioneer taxidermist of Denver, informs me that in the fall of 1868 he killed three Wild Turkeys, out of a flock of twenty-five or thirty, in the oak brush in what is known as the Oak Hills, about 6 miles above the mouth of Plum Creek, which empties into the Platte River, south of Denver. The remaining members of the flock were, one by one, killed by the Indians. These birds had frequented this locality for two or three years previous. He states also that these were the last and only Wild Turkeys that he ever heard of within a good many miles of Denver.—A. H. FELGER, *Denver, Colo.*

Capture of a Bald Eagle near Chicago, Ill.—On January 10, 1909, we shot an immature Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) on the shore of Lake Michigan at Glencoe, Illinois. The bird was flying low over the ice that piles up along the beach.—THORNE C. TAYLOR, HUBBARD WOODS, and WALTER T. FISHER, *Chicago, Ill.*

The Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*) in **Western Minnesota**.—A specimen of this falcon was taken Sept. 11, 1894, in Traverse County, Minnesota,

by Dr. Wm. de la Barre of Minneapolis. The locality is in the extreme western part of Minnesota close to the Dakota line and lies within the Coteaux region of the State where the fauna and flora are strongly colored by species and subspecies characteristic of the plains region farther west. The specimen is now No. 3484 in the collection of the Minnesota Natural History Survey. It was recently examined by Dr. A. K. Fisher and the identification verified. As far as known this is the first well authenticated record of the occurrence of this species in Minnesota, the only previous record being by G. G. Cantwell (O. & O., Vol. XVI, Oct., 1891, p. 157) reporting the somewhat doubtful and unverified capture of a specimen in the winter of 1890-91 in Swift County, western Minnesota.—THOS. S. ROBERTS, *Minneapolis, Minn.*

Agelaius phœniceus fortis in Louisiana.—In a series of six Redwings taken at Belcher, Louisiana, February 4, 1908, was one specimen (♀) referable to this subspecies — the others being *A. p. phœniceus*. This is the first record of the Giant Redwing in the State. The specimen in question was originally recorded¹ as *A. p. arctolegus* on the authority of H. C. Oberholser who, after going over the whole group again in greater detail, now decides that this bird should be referred to *fortis*.—ARTHUR H. HOWELL, *Washington, D. C.*

Pine Siskins and Winter Bobolinks.—The water front of Private Claims 120 and 321, City of Detroit, is a point of land reaching out into Lake St. Clair. The shore is lined with summer cottages behind which is a belt of weed-grown solid ground, about 100 yards in width, and then a marsh belt, about as wide, which brings you to the solid mainland. Between the marsh and mainland is a canal, the excavation from which forms an embankment some seven feet high with a row of Lombard poplars on the top. Near the westerly end the embankment runs out into the marsh and thence, at right angles, returns to the mainland leaving a strip of marsh, 20 × 100 yards, between the embankment and mainland that affords ample shelter from the lake winds and a food supply for the seed-eaters in the abundance of weeds growing along the sloping embankment. A number of times, during the last eighteen years, I have seen small flocks of Pine Siskins (*Spinus pinus*) migrating northward in this vicinity during March. It was not until the autumn of 1908 that I decided to secure a specimen and directed my attention to this point as the most promising locality. November 8 was the date set for the first visit and a better could not have been selected. Mr. Herbert H. Spicer and the writer spent two hours on the embankment opposite the piece of sheltered marsh and directly on the flight line of the Pine Siskins. They came from about 25 degrees east of north in flocks of from three to a hundred or more indi-

¹ Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, XXI, p. 121, 1908. Of the identity of the specimen of *arctolegus* recorded from Natchitoches there is no question.